



# Informational Notes for First Responders and Officials

Bulletin #67 – February 18, 2005

SEMA's Homepage: [sema.dps.mo.gov](http://sema.dps.mo.gov)

## Statewide Tornado Drill Set for 1:30 p.m., March 15 Awareness Campaigns Posted to Internet

The Statewide Tornado Drill will be conducted (weather permitting) at 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 15, 2005. The National Weather Service offices in St. Louis, Springfield, Paducah, and Pleasant Hill will send out the drill warning. If there is inclement weather, the backup date will be 1:30 p.m., Thursday, March 17. All schools, citizens and businesses are encouraged to take part in the drill. The drill consists of seeking shelter within the building and accounting for everyone.

The Severe Weather Campaign has been posted to the main section of the SEMA homepage: <http://sema.dps.mo.gov> The National Weather Service St. Louis Office's severe weather campaign is on their homepage at: [www.crh.noaa.gov/lxx/vortex/severewk.htm](http://www.crh.noaa.gov/lxx/vortex/severewk.htm) Emergency Management Directors (EMDs) and Safety Officers are encouraged to download and localize the information for their spring severe weather campaigns and media contacts.

## Area Coordinator Meetings

Area B: 6:30 p.m., March 7, at the Monroe County Courthouse, Paris.  
Area C: 10 a.m., February 23, at the St. Louis County EMA Offices, Chesterfield.  
Area D: 10 a.m., April 13 in Neosho.  
Area F: 10 a.m., February 23, State Emergency Operation Center, Jefferson City.  
Area G: 12 p.m., March 2, Hillbilly Junction Restaurant, Willow Springs.  
Area H: March, 2005 time and location TBA in Grant City.  
Area I: 1 p.m., March 2, Meramac Regional Planning Offices, St James.

## James Named DPS Director, Chapman Is Deputy for Homeland Security

Missouri Governor Matt Blunt named Mark James of Liberty as Public Safety Director and Michael Chapman as the DPS Deputy Director and will oversee the state's Homeland Security efforts.

Mark James has 26 years in public safety – nine years with the Missouri State Highway Patrol (MSHP) and 17 years with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). Currently, James is the special agent in charge of the ATF Bureau for the Kansas City Division, which encompasses a four-state area of Missouri Kansas, Nebraska and Iowa. He was responsible for overhauling ATF's intelligence function and designing the MSHP's first criminal intelligence unit.

Michael Chapman is the assistant for homeland defense exercises and plans for the U.S. Secretary of Defense. Chapman brings to Missouri the experience of managing department of defense activities in national-level homeland security and homeland defense operations. His previous experience includes foreign affairs and naval logistics. He has specialized in national security policy since 1995.

## **Spring Conference Set for March 27-30**

As of February 17, Spring Conference Coordinator, Cathy Zumwalt reported 309 people and 30 exhibitors have registered to attend the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Conference at Osage Beach. This conference is a learning and networking tool for elected officials, emergency management directors, emergency responders (hazmat, fire, law and medical), volunteer agency representatives, and state agency emergency response personnel.

The registration fee of \$135 may be mailed to MEPA Conference Account, P. O. Box 104553, Jefferson City, MO 65110 or paid for at the registration desk at the conference. The conference fee covers conference handouts, conference breaks, Monday lunch, Tuesday lunch, Tuesday night's banquet, and Wednesday continental breakfast. To secure the \$77/night conference rate, participants must make their hotel reservations before February 25.

## **SEMA Accepting Applications for these Classes**

March 8-10	CERT T-t-T (Area H only)	Cameron Public Safety
March 21-24	ODP WMD Awareness T-t-T	Kansas City, Springfield, Jefferson City, and St. Louis
March 16-17	Hazardous Weather and Flooding	Jefferson City
March 29-31	Public Works: Planning for WMD	Springfield
April 5-6	Principles of Emergency Management	Macon
April 11-13	Leadership & Influence	St. Louis, CEMA
April 12-14	Mass Fatalities Incident Response	Springfield
April 12-1	CERT T-t-T (Area A only)	Kansas City
April 12-13	ICS for Law Enforcement	St. Charles
April 20-21	Developing & Managing Volunteers	Chesterfield
April 26-28	CERT T-t-T (Area D only)	Springfield

For more information or to register online for SEMA Training Courses go to: <http://training.dps.mo.gov> or call SEMA's Training Assistant Tina Brown at 573-526-9215.

## **ODP Announces Firefighter Grants (Rounds 32, 33, 34)**

The Office of Domestic Preparedness announced 15 Missouri Fire Departments received FY'04 Firefighter assistance grants.

Departments receiving grants for Firefighting Vehicles are: Deepwater VFD \$171,000; Lowry City FD \$133,200; Shelby County RFD (in Purdin) \$48,600; Zell VFD \$199,305.

Departments receiving grants for Operations and Firefighter Safety are: Ashburn RVFD \$26,424; Aurora VFD \$91,341; Butler County FPD \$29,006; Eureka FPD \$105,787; Fulton FD \$181,292; Hannibal FD \$29,520; Lake Timberline VFD \$48,947; Metro West FPD \$72,100; N. Stone NE Barry County FPD (Crane) \$133,280; St. Louis FD \$139,634; St. Mary VFD \$53,113.

## **Wakeman Named SEMA Deputy Director**

SEMA Director Ron Reynolds named Jim Wakeman Deputy Director. Wakeman was the former Operations Branch Chief, and the former State Hazard Mitigation Officer. Before joining SEMA, he retired as a Colonel from the Missouri National Guard.

## **4.1 Arkansas Earthquake Felt in Southeast Missouri**

At 8 a.m. Thursday, February 10, a 4.1 magnitude earthquake near Caraway, AR, was felt in six states (Missouri, Arkansas, Tennessee, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Illinois). The epicenter is about 40 miles

from Caruthersville, and 198 miles from St. Louis. Neither damages, nor injuries were reported. However, 911 centers and Sheriff Offices received calls about the event. According to the USGS, the light earthquake was estimated to be almost 10 miles under the surface. The USGS's "Did You Feel It" page registered over 1700 hits for this earthquake.

### **NWS Offers Storm Spotter Classes in March 2005**

<b>St. Louis Office</b>		March 16	6:30 p.m., Buffalo
March 1	7 p.m., Knox City	March 17	6:30 p.m., Warsaw
March 3	7 p.m., Affton	March 23	6:30 p.m., Osage Beach
March 5	1 p.m., Affton	March 24	6:30 p.m., Lamar
March 10	7 p.m., Ballwin	March 29	6:30 p.m., Stockton
March 12	9 a.m., Chesterfield	March 30	6:30 p.m., Neosho
March 19	9 a.m., Crestwood	<b>Pleasant Hill Office</b>	
March 26	9 a.m., Ballwin	March 1	3:00 p.m., Harrisonville
<b>Paducah, KY Office</b>		March 1	7:00 p.m., Harrisonville
March 2	7 p.m., Cape Girardeau	March 7	6:30 p.m., Unionville
<b>Springfield Office</b>		March 8	6:30 p.m., Kirksville
March 1	6:30 p.m., Nevada	March 9	6:00 p.m., Macon
March 2	7 p.m., Gainesville	March 9	7:00 p.m., Carrollton
March 3	6:30 p.m., Taney County	March 11	6:30 p.m., Brunswick
March 7	6:30 p.m., Greenfield	March 14	7:00 p.m., Waverly
March 7	7:00 p.m., Rolla	March 21	7:00 p.m., St. Joseph
March 8	6:30 p.m., Salem	March 22	7:00 p.m., Maryville
March 8	6:30 p.m., Osceola	March 23	7:00 p.m., Higginsville
March 9	6:30 p.m., Bolivar	March 24	7:00 p.m., Albany
March 14	6:30 p.m., West Plains	March 31	7:00 p.m., Platte County

### **Emergency Preparedness Guide Developed for Homeowners**

Department of Homeland Security, Homeownership Alliance, and Habitat for Humanity International released the Emergency Preparedness Guide for homeowners. The Emergency Preparedness Guide will be distributed through local offices of the National Association of Realtors (NAR) with their closing day materials for new homeowners. The guide includes information on: Emergency supplies, Emergency plans for families, Threats homeowners may face, and Resources available to homeowners.

The goal of the campaign is to get Americans involved and, ultimately, to increase the level of basic preparedness across the nation. Since its launch, more than 210 million people have seen or read about Ready and its website has received over 1.8 billion hits. Individuals interested in receiving a "Get Ready Now" brochure may call 1-800-BE-READY or visit [www.Ready.gov](http://www.Ready.gov)

### **SAFECOM Helps Local Governments with Interoperable Communications Issues**

SAFECOM is housed in the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Office for Interoperability and Compatibility (OIC). Its mission is to help first responder improve their response ability to talk across disciplines and jurisdictions via radio communications systems, exchanging voice and/or data with one another on demand, in real time, when needed, and as authorized.

SAFECOM is a public safety practitioner driven program. It addresses the need to develop better technologies and processes for the cross-jurisdictional and cross-disciplinary coordination of existing systems and future networks. The customer base includes over 50,000 local and state public safety

agencies and over 100 federal agencies engaged in public safety disciplines such as law enforcement, firefighting, public health, and disaster recovery.

The goals are to develop communications and interoperability standards, give coordinated grant guidance, provide training and technical assistance, and conduct research on emerging technologies

### **USPS and MO Will Hold Joint Planning Meeting**

The United States Postal Service will hold a March briefing to discuss the deployment of the Biohazard Detection System and its impacts on the state of Missouri. State agencies participants include the State Emergency Management Agency, the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Health and Senior Services. A Postal Service medical unit, U.S. Postal Inspection Service (USPIS), Public Affairs & Communications and Emergency Preparedness sections will also participate in the joint briefing.

### **U.S. Department of Homeland Security FY 2006 Budget Request**

President George W. Bush's FY 2006 budget request includes a total of \$41.1 billion for the Department of Homeland Security. FY 2006 Budget Highlights for Emergency Management Community to improve National Preparedness and Response:

- \* Over \$2 billion in grants for states and urban areas would be based on assessments of risk and vulnerability, as well as the needs and priorities identified in state and regional homeland security plans. The proposed Targeted Infrastructure Protection program would provide \$600 million in integrated grants, enabling DHS to supplement state, local and regional government efforts in their protection of critical national infrastructures such as seaports, mass transit, railways, and energy facilities.

- \* \$3.6 billion in Federal assistance to the first responder community. The budget includes grants for training, and technical assistance administered by the Office of State and Local Government Coordination and Preparedness (SLGCP). This funding will support state and local agencies as they equip, train, exercise, and assess preparedness for emergencies, regardless of scale or cause.

- \* \$20 million to FEMA for enhanced catastrophic disaster planning to work with states and localities, as well as other federal agencies, to develop and implement plans that will improve the ability to respond to and to recover from catastrophic disasters.

- \* \$20.5 million for the Office of Interoperability and Compatibility (OIC) for interoperable communications that could be used by every first responder agency in the country. The OIC has currently identified three program areas: communications, equipment, and training. The OIC will plan and begin to establish the training and equipment programs, and will continue existing communication interoperability efforts through the SAFECOM Program.